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RURAL ELECTRIFICATION ADMINISTRATION  
PROGRESS BULLETIN

GENERAL NO. 87.

APRIL 29, 1939

Rural Electrification Administrator John M. Carmody has sent the following telegram to Governor Arthur H. James, of Pennsylvania:

"Just informed two bills amending 1937 Public Utility Law with respect to provisions relating to rural electric cooperatives are pending on third reading in Pennsylvania Senate. One amendment would prohibit formation of electric cooperatives to serve areas where private utilities say they stand ready to serve without requiring utilities actually to serve. This is exactly like amendments that have been defeated in many States and that are customarily instigated by power companies. It would practically wreck extension of existing cooperatives and development of new ones, thus denying service to many thousands of Pennsylvania farm families. Second amendment would reduce protective period for formation and development of such cooperatives from total of eighteen months to three months. Limiting protective period would seriously handicap formation of cooperatives since three months period hopelessly inadequate to complete construction. The rural electrification program in Pennsylvania has made fine progress under protection of 1937 Public Utility Law and 1937 Rural Electric Cooperative Act. To stop now would be a tragedy for farm people. I hope you will personally investigate these amendments and take all possible measures to protect interests of farmers."

